

## **Amendments To The Claims**

This Listing Of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing Of Claims:**

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): A process for production of an aluminum foil (10) coated with a sealable and sterilizable plastic (14) based on polypropylene (PP) or polyethylene (PE), comprising coextruding the plastic (14) with an adhesion-promotion agent (6), to form a coextrudate, combining the coextrudate of plastic (14) and adhesion-promotion agent (16) with an aluminum foil (24) between two rollers (20,22), the temperature of the coextruded-coated aluminum foil being such that the temperature at outer surface of the plastic (14) of the coextrudate of the plastic (14) and the adhesion-promotion agent (16) lies below the crystallite melt point ( $T_K$ ) of the plastic (14), then passing continuously the coextruded-coated aluminum foil (10), to increase the adhesion strength between the aluminum foil (24) and the plastic coating (14), through an oven (26) with temperature ( $T_o$ ) set so that the temperature at the outer surface of the plastic coating (14) of the coextrudate of the plastic coating (14) and the adhesion-promotion agent (16) lies above the crystallite melt point ( $T_K$ ) of the plastic coating (14), and cooling the coextruded-coated aluminum foil (10) heat-treated in this way, after emerging from the oven (26), in a shock-like manner such that, in the crystalline portion of at least in the outer surface area of the cooled plastic coating (14), and the crystal grains in this outer surface area have an extremely small size ~~are as small as possible~~.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 28, wherein the temperature ( $T_O$ ) of the oven (26) lies at least 20°C above the crystallite melt point ( $T_K$ ) of the plastic (14).

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 29, wherein the start temperature ( $T_S$ ) for the shock-like cooling of the plastic ~~layer~~ coating (14) lies above the crystallite melt point ( $T_K$ ) of the plastic coating (14) and the end temperature ( $T_E$ ) of the shock-like cooling lies at least 40°C below the crystallite melt point ( $T_K$ ).

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 30, wherein the end temperature ( $T_E$ ) of the shock-like cooling is at least 60°C.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 31, wherein the end temperature ( $T_E$ ) of the shock-like cooling is at least 80°C below the crystallite melt point ( $T_K$ ) of the plastic (14).

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 34, wherein the shock-like cooling speed ( $V_A$ ) of the plastic ~~layer~~ coating (14) is greater than ~~40°C/sec~~ 10°C/sec.

Claim 34 (Previously Amended): The process according to Claim 32, wherein the shock-like cooling speed ( $V_A$ ) is greater than 50°C/sec.

Claim 35 (Previously Amended): The process according to Claim 34, wherein the shock-like cooling speed ( $V_A$ ) is greater than 100°C/sec.

Claim 36 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 34, wherein the shock-like cooling of the plastic ~~layer~~ coating (14) is carried out by partial looping over at least one cooled roller (20, 22).

Claim 37 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 36, wherein the shock-like cooling of the plastic ~~layer~~ coating (14) is carried out by direct cooling by means of a liquid or gaseous coolant (30).

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 37, wherein the extrusion-coated aluminum foil (10) is passed through water.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 38, wherein the extrusion-coated aluminum foil (10) is passed through ice-cooled water.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 37, wherein the extrusion-coated aluminum foil (10) is sprayed with liquid coolant (30).

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 40, wherein the extrusion-coated aluminum foil (10) is sprayed with water.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 37, wherein the extrusion-coated aluminum foil (10) is cooled by means of a gas.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 42, wherein the extrusion-coated aluminum foil (10) is cooled by means of a cooled gas.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 37, wherein the adhesion-promotion agent (16) is a co- or terpolymer modified to promote adhesion with ethylene (E) or propylene (P) as one of the monomer components.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 44, wherein the copolymer or terpolymer is selected from the group consisting of E.AA, E.MAA, E.VA, E.MA, E.EA, E.nBA, E.CO, E.VA.CO, E.nBA.CO, E.AE.AA and P.MAH, where AA is acrylic acid, AE is acryl ester, (MA,EA,BA), nBA is n-butyl acrylate, CO is carbon monoxide, MAA is methacrylic acid, MAH is maleic and VA is vinyl acetate.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 45, wherein the acryl ester is MA that is methyl acrylate, EA that is ethyl acrylate or BA that is butyl acrylate.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 37, wherein the aluminum foil (24) is at room temperature when the aluminum foil (24) and the coextruded plastic (14)/adhesion-promotion agent (16) are combined.

Claim 48 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 37, wherein the start temperature ( $T_S$ ) for the shock-like cooling of the plastic ~~layer~~ coating (14) lies above the crystallite melt point ( $T_K$ ) of the plastic coating (14) and the end temperature ( $T_E$ ) of the shock-like cooling lies at least 40°C below the crystallite melt point ( $T_K$ ).

Claim 49 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 37, wherein the shock-like cooling speed ( $V_A$ ) of the plastic ~~layer~~ coating (14) is greater than 10°C/sec.

Claim 50 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 28, wherein the shock-like cooling of the plastic ~~layer~~ coating (14) is carried out by partial looping over at least one cooled roller (20, 22).

Claim 51 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 28, wherein the shock-like cooling of the plastic layer coating (14) is carried out by direct cooling by means of a liquid or gaseous coolant (30).

Claim 52 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 28, herein the adhesion promotion agent (16) is a co- or terpolymer modified to promote adhesion with ethylene (E) or propylene (P) as one of the monomer components.

Claim 53 (Previously Presented): The process comprising producing a package (40) for moist animal feed (42) from the coated aluminum foil (10) produced by the process according to Claim 28.

Claims 54 and 55 (Cancelled).

Claim 56 (New): A process for production of an aluminum foil (10) coated with a sealable and sterilizable plastic (14) based on polypropylene (PP) or polyethylene (PE), comprising coextruding the plastic (14) with an adhesion-promotion agent (6), to form a coextrudate, combining the coextrudate of plastic (14) and adhesion-promotion agent (16) with an aluminum foil (24) between two rollers (20,22), the temperature of the coextruded-coated aluminum foil being such that the temperature at outer surface of the plastic (14) of the coextrudate of the plastic (14) and the adhesion-promotion agent (16) lies below the crystallite melt point ( $T_K$ ) of the plastic (14), then passing continuously the coextruded-coated aluminum foil (10), to increase the adhesion strength between the aluminum foil (24) and the plastic coating (14), through an oven (26) with temperature ( $T_o$ ) set so that the temperature at the outer surface of the plastic coating (14) of the coextrudate of the plastic coating (14) and the adhesion-

promotion agent (16) lies above the crystallite melt point ( $T_K$ ) of the plastic coating (14), and cooling the coextruded-coated aluminum foil (10) heat-treated in this way, after emerging from the oven (26), in a shock-like manner such that after-crystallization is reduced so that a mainly amorphous structure of the outer surface of the plastic coating (14) is obtained, and such that achieves essentially suppressed after-crystallization in the outer surface area of the plastic coating (14).

Claim 57 (New): A process for production of an aluminum foil (10) coated with a sealable and sterilizable plastic (14) based on polypropylene (PP) or polyethylene (PE), comprising coextruding the plastic (14) with an adhesion-promotion agent (6), to form a coextrudate, combining the coextrudate of plastic (14) and adhesion-promotion agent (16) with an aluminum foil (24) between two rollers (20,22), the temperature of the coextruded-coated aluminum foil being such that the temperature at outer surface of the plastic (14) of the coextrudate of the plastic (14) and the adhesion-promotion agent (16) lies below the crystallite melt point ( $T_K$ ) of the plastic (14), then passing continuously the coextruded-coated aluminum foil (10), to increase the adhesion strength between the aluminum foil (24) and the plastic coating (14), through an oven (26) with temperature ( $T_o$ ) set so that the temperature at the outer surface of the plastic coating (14) of the coextrudate of the plastic coating (14) and the adhesion-promotion agent (16) lies above the crystallite melt point ( $T_K$ ) of the plastic coating (14), and cooling the coextruded-coated aluminum foil (10) heat-treated in this way, after emerging from the oven (26), in a shock-like manner such that, in the crystalline portion of at least in the outer surface area of the cooled plastic

coating (14), the crystal grains in this outer surface area have an extremely small size, and such that after-crystallization is reduced so that a substantially amorphous structure of the outer surface of the plastic coating is obtained.